

Message Text

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11

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 OES-05 PC-05 USIA-15

INR-07 SWF-01 DODE-00 AGR-10 INT-05 COME-00 EB-07

IGA-01 SP-02 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 /119 W

----- 087900

R 041545Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3090

INFO AMEMBASSY ZAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 1889

AFDROUGHT

DEPT FOR AF/W

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH REPORTS: 1974 DROUGHT RELIEF
PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY: DURING THE COURSE HIS NOVEMBER 28 STATE OF
NATION ADDRESS, PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH ANNOUNCED THAT
THE 1974 DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAM HAS COST MORE THAN TWO

BILLION OUGUYA (45.5 MILLION DOLLARS) RAISED FROM DOMESTIC
AND FOREIGN SOURCES. THIS SUM REPRESENTS A 25 PERCENT INCREASE
OVER LAST YEAR'S DROUGHT EMERGENCY PROGRAM AND INCLUDES AN
ALMOST THREE-FOLD INCREASE IN GIRM'S OWN CONTRIBUTION,
WHICH WAS VALUED AT 34.1 MILLION DOLLARS FOR 1974.

FOREIGN DONOR FOOD AID AMOUNTED TO 100,950 TONS OF
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GRAIN AND FORTIFIED FOODS THIS YEAR.

2. FOOD AID: ASIDE FROM 93,000 TONS OF FOOD GRAINS GIRM ALSO RECEIVED 7,650 TONS FORTIFIED FOODS (CSM) 2170 TONS POWDERED MILK AND 1670 TONS BUTTER OR VEGETABLE OILS. CONTRIBUTIONS IN ALL CATEGORIES WERE UP OVER 1973 FIGURES.
3. LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO DROUGHT RELIEF TOTALED 1.5 BILLION OR 34.1 MILLION DOLLARS. THIS INCLUDES RECEIPTS FROM THENATIONAL BUDGET TOTALING 15 PERCENT OF ALL OPERATING EXPENSES, (ABOUT 9.5 MILLION DOLLARS) A TAX OF ONE DAY'S SALARY PER MONTH ON ALL SALARIED WORKERS AND A ONE PERCENT TURNOVER TAX LEVIED ON ALL COMMERCIAL FIRMS.
4. R AND R PROGRAMS: AMONG THOSE MENTIONED WERE: A. MAINTENANCE OF GIRM'S 300 UNIT TRUCK FLEET FOR FOOD DISTRIBUTION, B. 4.5 MILLION DOLLAR RESETTLEMENT SCHEME FOR THE BOGHE PLAIN, C. 1.1 MILLION DOLLARS FOR RICE CULTIVATION, D. 36 WELLS DRILLEE AT COST OF 4.3 MILLION DOLLARS.
5. US CONTRIBUTION: U.S. GIFTS OF GRAIN AND FORTIFIED FOODS AS WELL AS R AND R PROGRAMS AND EMERGENCY AIRLIFT SPECISICALLY MENTIONED AND PRAISED BY PRESIDENT.
6. COMMENT: OULD DADDAH'S ASSERTION THAT TWO BILLION OUGIYA WAS SPENT IN DROUGHT RELIEF EFFORTS IN 1974 DOE NOT, APPARENTLY, INCLUDE ANY VALUE PLACED ON FOOD GRAIN DONATIONS. NONETHELESS TWO BILLION OUGIYA IS THE EQUIVALENT OF 65 PERCENT OF THE ENTIRE GIRM BUDGET FOR THIS YEAR.SHURTLESF

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, DISASTER RELIEF, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NOUAKC01889
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740352-1095
From: NOUAKCHOTT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741261/aaaacafv.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 SEP 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH REPORTS: 1974 DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAM
TAGS: EAID, SWEL, PGOV, MR, (OULD DADDAH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005